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From: Charles Brian Oh [mailto:txchuck0@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2009 3:22 PM

To:

Cc:

Subject: Bill 4 (2009)

SUBJECT: BILL 4 (2009)

Honorable Members of the Council, Subcommittee and Staff:

I am writing to express my support of the intent of Bill 4 to enhance driving safety for the citizens and visitors of the City and County of Honolulu.

However, I believe the Bill is too much too soon. It restricts "any hand-held or other portable electronic equipment capable of providing wireless and/or data communication..."

Since the intent is to prevent motor vehicle accidents caused by using cellular phones while operating a motor vehicle, the Bill's broad wording prohibits the use of all non cell phone devices such as two way radios – not proven to be a contributing factor to motor vehicle accidents – and other wireless communication devices such as mobile display terminals used by many businesses including but not limited to tow truck operators, delivery companies, and taxi drivers. The economic impact to these users would be devastating -- an event we can not afford. Additionally, public service volunteers such as the Red Cross and Amateur Radio operators would also be prohibited from communicating from their motor vehicles.

In summary, I think prohibiting all mobile electronic devices while operating a motor vehicle would penalize a wider range of mobile telecommunications users beyond a specific known cause of motor vehicle accidents without justification.

I respectfully request that you consider taking small steps toward solving a problem by limiting the wording to strictly prohibiting cell phone use while operating a motor vehicle. If sufficient evidence emerges while cell phone use is restricted and shown enforceable, then it makes sense to review the use of other devices as possible significant contributing factors to motor vehicle accidents.

Respectfully,
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